

P23960 A02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Suguru TAKISHIMA

Group Art Unit : 2655

Serial No : 10/669,434

Examiner : Not Assigned Yet

Filed : September 25, 2003

For : OPTICAL DISC DRIVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-45067, published on February 14, 2003,
together with its English language patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No.
2003-0021219 to NAGAI, published on January 30, 2003;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-150598, published on May 24, 2002,
together with its English language patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No.
2002-0093744 to YAMAMOTO et al., published on July 18, 2002;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-334476, published on November 22,
2002, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-304763, published on October 18,
2002, together with an English language translation of the same;

P23960.A02

U.S. Patent No. 5,600,494 to KUBO et al., issued February 4, 1997; and

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-0152014 to MARUYAMA, published on August 14, 2003.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider and cite the patent documents. Copies of the Japanese patent documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent application:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/643,899 to TAKEUCHI entitled "Optical System for Optical Disc Drive Handling Different Types of Optical Discs," filed on August 20, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of this U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

P23960.A02

Should the Examioner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Suguru TAKISHIMA

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February 10, 2004
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